

1 **REMARKS**

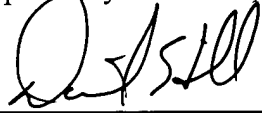
2 In the July 16, 2003, Office Action, the Examiner allowed claims 9-32 and rejected  
3 Claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. §112. Applicants thank the Examiner for his finding of allowable  
4 subject matter. To expedite prosecution of allowable Claims 9-32, applicants have cancelled  
5 Claims 1-8. Importantly, the cancellation of these claims is not being made for any reasons  
6 related to patentability, and applicants reserve the right to prosecute these claims in one or more  
7 continuation or divisional applications.

8 ~~With respect to the Examiner's objections to the abstract, specification, and drawings, the~~  
9 Applicants have amended the abstract, specification, and drawings in accordance with the  
10 Examiner's comments. Applicants thank the Examiner for calling these issues to his attention.

11 In view of the foregoing, applicants respectfully submit that the present invention  
12 represents a patentable contribution to the art and the application is in condition for allowance.  
13 Early and favorable action is accordingly solicited.  
14

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Respectfully submitted,



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